

WESTON WEEKLY LEADER.

VOL. I.

WESTON, UMATILLA COUNTY, OREGON, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 21, 1878.

NO. 1.

WESTON WEEKLY LEADER.

W. L. Black, Publisher.
ISSUED EVERY SATURDAY MORNING,
AT WESTON, UMATILLA COUNTY, OGN.

Subscription Rates:
One year (cash) \$3.00
Six months 2.00
Three months 1.00
Single copies 10¢
Advertising Rates:
One square, (1 inch) first insertion, 30¢
Each additional insertion, 20¢
Two squares, first insertion, 50¢
Each additional insertion, 30¢
Three squares, first insertion, 75¢
Each additional insertion, 50¢
One quarter column, first insertion, 1.50
Each additional insertion, 1.00
Time advertisements by special contract. Local notices 25 cents per line first insertion, 15 cents per line each subsequent insertion. Advertising bills payable quarterly.
All legal notices will be charged 75 cents per square, first insertion, and 37 cents per square each subsequent insertion.
Notice: Simple announcements of births, marriages and deaths will be inserted without charge. Obituary notices charged for according to length.

LATEST NEWS!

EASTERN STATES.

Trade Dollars in China.
New York, Dec. 9.—Apprehensions have been expressed that the passage of the law making trade dollars legal tender would recall some thirty millions from China, and in this way greatly increase the volume of currency. This is stated by merchants here to be a mistake, as it is a practice of Chinese bankers, on receiving any foreign coin and ascertaining its value, to put their mark, a chop, on it. A coin so defaced would not, under our coinage laws, be receivable as bullion. A cable dispatch from Hongkong says that there are only seven millions of unchopped trade dollars there, and the opinion is expressed that out of the 28,000,000 to 30,000,000 trade dollars exported to China in the last five years, all but one or two million have been chopped, and therefore under any change of laws cannot enter into our currency.

Treaty With Japan.
WASHINGTON, Dec. 9.—The commercial treaty with Japan, soon to be committed to the Senate by the president for ratification, is an important addition to the present treaty, having in view the increased development of the commerce of both countries.

Redemption of Bonds.
The secretary of the treasury to-day issued the 74th call for the redemption of 5 20 bonds of 1865 and consols of 1865. On March 9th next interest will cease.

Relief for California.
In the House to-day Davis introduced a bill to reimburse California for expenses incurred in Indian wars.

War in Kentucky.
MORTIMER STEINBOCK, Dec. 11.—James Pettit, deputy U. S. marshal, arrived last night from a point 20 miles from Jackson, the scene of the late disturbances in Breathitt county, and reports another collision between the parties of Bill Strong and Jerry Little, which occurred on Wednesday evening last. Four men were killed, and seven wounded.

All in One Day.
COLUMBIA, Dec. 11.—Governor Hampton's leg was amputated to-day below the knee. His friends say his condition is yet dangerous. He was elected U. S. Senator, the vote in the Senate being unanimous. The House with two exceptions, voted for him. They were Miller and Simmons (colored), from Beaufort.

Dead.
New York, Dec. 11.—Henry Wells, founder of Wells, Fargo Express, died at Glasgow, Scotland.

Heavy Rain Storm.
New York, Dec. 11.—A heavy rain storm during the last two days has caused much damage in New England. In Philadelphia the loss is serious by the overflow of wharves and flooding of cellars. At Scranton the rivers and streams are greatly swollen, and should the rain continue mining operations will be stopped. Railroad and other bridges throughout this State are threatened by floods. It rained steadily till 50 hours.

A heavy gale to-day along the Atlantic coast and very severe at Boston. Some damage to shipping reported. The abatement of the Barrett suspension at Port Jervis was carried away this morning; a freight train from Peshawar with two engines went into the river near Westport, N. H., where the trestle was swept away. Both were badly wrecked. The bridge being swept away the wrecking train cannot reach the disabled train. At North Adams, Mass., the people had to abandon their homes on the river banks.

Our Representatives.
WASHINGTON, Dec. 11.—Delegate Jacobs introduced a bill appropriating \$3,000 for the site and log signal on Sandy Point, Forest Sound, and \$22,000 for improvement of the Upper Columbia.

Mitchell's bill for the construction of a harbor of refuge quotes the report of the army engineers for 1877, showing that there is not a harbor in a distance of 700 miles northward from San Francisco which a vessel can enter in heavy weather, and therefore proposes an appropriation of \$500,000 to be expended by the war department in the commencement of a breakwater at such point between the straits of Fuca and the 42d parallel as may in the opinion of the majority of the board of engineers for the Pacific Coast be most suitable.

Not Ready to Accept.
WASHINGTON, Dec. 12.—Postmaster Snowden of Philadelphia has been tendered Lincolnman's position, but refuses to accept at present, because he is waiting until the person he desires is appointed postmaster of Philadelphia.

San Jose Resignation Business.
Secretary of War has transmitted to the House the report of Humphrey, chief of engineers, on the two House bills relating to Point San Jose reservation. One proposes to relinquish the reservation to certain settlers, one of whom is Mrs. Gen. Fremont, and the other to reimburse them for the loss of property. Reports quote Generals Halleck, McDowell and engineer officers as concurring in the belief that this point is essential to proper defense of the second line of fortifications, and in guarding the harbor

and property of San Francisco in case of war with maritime power as to right of holders to compensation. The report says this point occupied by Spaniards for military purposes and held by United States troops prior to cessation as well as after, and that settlers were squatters. The recommendation in which the secretary concurs is that the reimbursing bill ought to pass and this will be final.

Business of the Country.
NEW YORK, Dec. 11.—To-morrow *The Public* will have the following details of the business of the country as shown through clearing house returns exchanges for the week ending November 30th at San Francisco and December 7th at all other cities. It shows the following gains and losses: Gains—Philadelphia, 2.10; Chicago, 21.1; San Francisco, 8.7; St. Louis, 14; Baltimore, 3.6; Milwaukee, 25.7; Indianapolis, 3.4. Losses—New York, 10.7; Philadelphia, 3.6; Cincinnati, 11.4; New Orleans, 2.2; Louisville, 7.8; Pittsburg, 8.6; Providence, 24.6; New Haven, 8.4; Lowell, 35.

Keno is at the west, and the sudden increase in exchanges at Chicago and Milwaukee is probably in part a token of its presence in that region. It is an encouraging fact that at last Philadelphia, after nearly two years of continual comparative loss in exchange, begins to report gains. On the other hand, transactions at New York are over 10.7 per cent behind those of the first week of December, 1877, which were extremely large.

Hard Money League.
CHICAGO, Dec. 11.—The Hard Money League of the Northwest has decided to open an office in Washington and to extend the work of the league to all the States and allow each State a representative on the executive committee.

Great Railroad Union.
An interview with a prominent official in a position to know the facts was had to-day by an *Inter-Ocean* reporter, and information was given that there was a decided move toward a consolidation of the Union and Central Pacific Railroads as reported in these dispatches heretofore.

Indian Transfer Commission.
WASHINGTON, Dec. 11.—The Indian transfer commission to-day heard Secretary Stickney, of the peace commission, give his views in opposition to the transfer.

Chapter of Murder.
MEMPHIS, Tenn., Dec. 12.—Denise Edwards, colored, residing 10 miles from here, was shot and killed Saturday by Will Smithy and John B. Jerrolds, white, because he refused to allow one of them to cut off the tail of a horse he was riding. The murder occurred at Edward's cabin, and his wife and child were also hit by bullets, and soon after died. A colored visitor was fatally wounded. Edwards was much liked by both races, and the jail is now being guarded to prevent lynch law being administered.

Two Suspected Cattle Thieves.
DENVER, Dec. 12.—Two suspected cattle thieves, named Mitchell and Ketchum, had a fight a few days ago with four herdsmen who were trying to arrest them on South Loup Fork in Custer county, and during the fight Stevens, one of the herdsmen was shot and instantly killed. Mitchell and Ketchum escaped, but were soon afterwards arrested. They were corralled by an armed party of 20 or 30 masked men, under cover of cocked rifles, took the prisoners from the sheriff and guards and hurriedly disappeared with them. Yesterday the bodies of Mitchell and Ketchum were found burned almost beyond recognition at a foot of a tree, to which they had evidently been tied, while the fire was built around them and burned them to death.

Noah Martin, aged 50 years, living on a farm a few miles from York, Neb., was murdered on Tuesday night. On the arrival of his team from York, whither he had been on business, he was found dead in his wagon with his skull broken. No clue to the murderer.

The dead bodies of Mrs. Harrison and three children were discovered yesterday in a hay stack on a farm south of Kearney, Nebraska. The murder is supposed to have been committed several days ago. No arrests. A man named S. D. Richards is suspected of the crime. He has fled the country.

Storm Damages.
SPRINGFIELD, Mass., Dec. 12.—The breaking of dams at Ashfield, Conway, Whately and North Hatfield, has caused the destruction of a number of mills and bridges, and serious damage to highways.

FOREIGN NEWS.
Resumed Negotiations.
LONDON, Dec. 9.—A correspondent at Pesh says the new Turkish ministry has resumed negotiations with Russia, relative to a definite convention at a point where they were trapped by their predecessor. Conditions of evacuation are persons unsettled. But England has suggested a scheme which she has advised the porte to accept and to which Russia has already assented.

Another Failure.
The West of England and South Wales District bank had 42 branches. Its liabilities are \$17,300,000; assets stated at the same amount, but as they consist of local bills which are not negotiable in London, the Bank of England refused to advance upon them. The run upon the bank for the last few days has been so persistent that the cash on hand is estimated at only a million and a quarter dollars. Shareholders number 2000 and their liability is unlimited.

In Turkistan.
ST. PETERSBURG, Dec. 10.—Intelligence has been received that the family of the ameer of Afghanistan has taken refuge in Russian Turkistan.

A Sick Princess.
LONDON, Dec. 9.—A Darmstadt dispatch says that the grand duchess, Princess Alice, is seriously ill of diphtheria. Princess Alice is the second daughter of Queen Victoria.

Adheres to the Treaty.
CONSTANTINOPLE, Dec. 9.—The sultan has assured Count Zechy, Austro-Hungarian ambassador to Constantinople, of the porte's intention to adhere to the treaty of Berlin, and expresses great anxiety to arrive at an understanding with Austria.

Treaty of Berlin.
PESH, Dec. 11.—The lower house of the Hungarian diet rejected, by a vote of 147 to 96, a motion, which was opposed by Premier Tisza, to discuss the treaty of Berlin.

Afghan Question.
LONDON, Dec. 10.—In the house of commons the debate on Whitbread's resolution

condemning the government for their Afghan policy was resumed.
Lord John Manners, postmaster general, after a general justification of the government's policy, declared that they must prosecute the war until the ameer submitted. The government would then be prepared to grant terms as generous as was consistent with the security of India.

Gladstone pointed out the probability that the ameer would flee instead of submit, in which case the government would be placed in the dilemma of having to occupy the country. He declared that the official correspondence concerning Afghanistan contained gross misstatements of fact involving unprecedentedly reckless negligence. He directly challenged several statements of the viceroy concerning the Peshawar conference, on which the government bases the charge of hostility against the ameer. He quoted from the dispatch of Sir Louis Bleyer the words of the Afghan envoy in support of his assertions. He showed that Lord Lytton in remarkable contrast with the government's alleged respect for treaties, had at Peshawar disavowed certain promises of protection made by Lord Northbrook and Lord Mayo. Only when these promises were annulled and every token of amity withdrawn had the ameer unwillingly accepted the Russian mission.

The government's acceptance of Russia's transparent excuses enabled Russia to send a mission to Kabul whenever she chose. He compared the new aggressive policy of which the ameer is the victim with that which led to the former Afghan war. He prayed God to avert the melancholy omen, and hoped that different viceroys, if not different governments, would undo the present evil work. Even if the country indulged it was the solemn duty of those who believed that truth and justice were the only true foundations of policy to record their protest. When Gladstone concluded his speech there was prolonged cheering.

After several minor party speeches, Lord George Hamilton replied to Gladstone. He urged that frontier relations had been getting worse every year, and would have resulted in war with Russia unless the government had assumed a determined attitude. We should be in constant danger from Russia until a British resident was placed in Herat.

Proposition to England.
ST. PETERSBURG, Dec. 11.—A *Times* Berlin correspondent says that the confidential communication from Germany of which Rourke, under foreign secretary, recently informed the British house of commons, was received in September and was a proposal that England should assume protectorate over Constantinople and occupy certain neighboring positions, as the price for permitting the unification of Bulgaria and Roumelia. The correspondent asserts that negotiations on the subject still continue.

A semi-official statement published here asserts that the reconstruction of the Turkish ministry is an indication of favorable progress in negotiations for a definite treaty. Russia only desires full and complete peace in conformity with the treaty of Berlin.

Sugar Loans.
COPENHAGEN, Dec. 12.—The government has telegraphed the governor of Santa Cruz to grant administrative loans, not exceeding five hundred thousand crowns, for the purpose of restoring sugar plantations.

Spain and Basque.
MADRID, Dec. 12.—Premier Conovias del Castelo, replying to an energetic protest of Basque deputies, declared that a state of siege would be maintained in the Basque provinces as long as the agitation continued, and that the law abolishing ferrous will be carried out to the utmost despite the passive resistance. These declarations cause a marked sensation in political circles.

An American Consul.
CONSTANTINOPLE, Dec. 12.—The American consul has made three applications for the release of Romer. He was informed that Romer was a party to a conspiracy in 1868 in Syria, but as his arrest was contrary to treaty, the Vicer ordered Romer to be delivered to the consul for trial. The minister of police requested a remand of the prisoner until to-day. The consul protested and will apply again to-day for the custody of Romer.

PACIFIC COAST.
Earthquake.
SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 10.—A heavy shock of earthquake was felt at Chico and Red Bluff this morning.

Attempted Suicide.
Wm. Church, a prisoner in the county jail, charged with the murder of the clerk of the Coos Lodge House, attempted suicide by cutting his throat and arm with a pocket knife. The wounds will likely prove fatal.

For a Modification.
SACRAMENTO, Dec. 9.—The constitutional convention to-day adopted a resolution requesting the chair to appoint a committee to draft a petition to the governors of Oregon and Nevada soliciting them to memorialize the president and Congress, on behalf of their respective States, for a modification of the Burlingame treaty.

Constitutional Convention.
SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 11.—The Constitutional Convention is discussing the Chinese. It is that where legislation is faulty is in dealing with the Mongolians on ship board instead of waiting for the local laws to take hold of him. One amendment goes so far as to require the Mayor of cities and the supervisors of counties to see that no Chinese reside within the limits of their jurisdiction, and requiring the Governor to assist the local authorities in enforcing this section. Another amendment forbids corporations employing Chinese.

A Queer Story.
N. C. West, aged 50 years, lately a preacher at Gilroy, was arrested in this city to-day. He ran off with the wife and five children of John Rupe, a farmer, leaving the old man and two boys, and taking the portable property and money. They have been lodging in different parts of the city. Mrs. Rupe declares West innocent.

Hard Cases.
SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 11.—Officers of the detective force say the city is rapidly filling up with hard characters, who come here to spend the winter. Many are ex-convicts released under the provisions of the Goodwin act.

Telegraphic Changes.
The district superintendents of the Pacific Division of the Western Union Telegraph Co. are in session in this city discussing the general business of the division, and some changes in the methods of business to be inaugurated on the 1st of January. Superintendent Lamb, of Portland, is to be transferred to the charge of the San Francisco district, and Dan F. Leahy, present manager of the Portland office, will succeed Mr. Lamb.

Pinney's Misdoings.
In the U. S. circuit court the case of the United States against H. E. Ramsdell is on trial. The case is to recover an amount alleged to be due the government in a coal contract for the mint. It is alleged and shown by the testimony of G. C. Loring, a clerk for Ramsdell, that George M. Pinney, while clerk to the superintendent of the mint, drew and cashed a check for \$3,200 for 200 tons of coal at \$16 per ton; but that Pinney only called for 75 tons, and on its delivery Ramsdell paying \$1,200. Witness assumed that Pinney kept the balance, \$2,000, for his own use.

More Noteworthiness.
SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 12.—There is more noteworthiness developing in the school frauds. The supervisors have decided to take the investigation in hand. The school board will bring charges against the implicated teachers. The questions by the State board for the postponed examination were resumed yesterday. They are very easy, and will let in as many candidates as usual.

Killed Himself.
Norbert Landry, a prominent real estate agent, shot himself through the head yesterday at his room, 2421 Sacramento street. A pistol was found and a note as follows: "I have decided that you might as well blow out your brains as your money, for you can live as well without the first as without the latter; and that this earth will revolve hereafter as heretofore." Two safes were in the room with the key and combination written out. He was aged 58, and was a widower with married children. The cause of his suicide was the publication of his name as having improper relations with the child of Rose McFarland, for whom a guardian was recently appointed by the Probate Court. Landry has shown considerable depression of spirits since the case came up in court. He returned home earlier than usual yesterday afternoon and shot himself in his room. He was found by his son-in-law and his housekeeper about 3 o'clock in the afternoon.

A Confession of Murder.
RED BLUFF, Dec. 12.—In April last A. D. Buck of this county was found dead on his ranch with a bullet hole through his body. The officers have never relaxed their efforts to find the murderers. Suspicion was fastened upon the following individuals: W. H. Donaldson, John Cluckey and John F. Martin. The district attorney has succeeded in getting a full confession out of them all. Donaldson did the shooting and the others were accessories. The confession develops a plot which has never been equaled in this county, and is scarcely excelled by the fiendish work of Troy Day and his associates. They accused the deceased of poisoning some horses belonging to them and agreed that the first one of the three who saw him was to shoot the "old badger," as they called him.

Best Time Yet.
STOCKTON, Dec. 12.—At the Agricultural Society track to-day a trial of speed occurred between Rarus and Sweetzer. The track was in splendid condition. A strong north wind prevailed all the afternoon. The purse was \$500, and in case either horse should beat Goldsmith Maid's time in this State (2:14), \$500 added. Rarus made the first heat in 2:17 3/4, and the second heat, with a running horse, in 2:14, the fastest time ever made in the State. After this heat Shippee, the president, announced that Rarus having beaten the fastest time ever made in the State, would not trot a third heat. Sweetzer made the first heat in 2:16 3/4; second, with running horse, 2:16 3/4; third, 2:17 3/4.

Electric Light.
SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 13.—Ex-Governor Latham, the owner of the French patents, proposes to take measures to immediately test the practicability of lighting San Francisco by electricity. He claims he can give a better light at one-third the present cost.

Hung Himself.
Carmstadt Wamshultz, a painter, a native of Germany, committed suicide yesterday by hanging himself to the rafters of a chicken house at his residence on Harrison street, near Sixteenth. He was 54 years of age. He has been drinking very heavily lately, and is supposed to have been intoxicated at the time of his death.

Skeleton Found.
The skeleton of a man with a rope around his neck was unearthed on the levee by some workmen at Sacramento yesterday. The man had red hair and very large bones, and was dressed in the uniform of a United States soldier. He is supposed to have lain there 12 years, and is evidently the finale of a suicide.

Mining Accident.
The cage in the shaft of the Guadalupe Mine near San Jose, fell a distance of 100 feet yesterday. There were nine men on the cage at the time of the accident. Thos. J. Crocker was instantly killed and the others were fearfully mangled, but it is thought they will recover.

The Electric Light in Mines.
The London Mining Journal points out that, aside from its other advantages, the success of the electric light would solve a most important problem affecting the lives of many persons now working in mines. "There appears to be no reason," says the Journal, "why electricity should not be made applicable for mining instead of lamps, and this would affect what our mining engineers and foremost chemists have long been looking for. It would give the men a light such as they have never dreamed of, enabling them to get a much larger quantity of coal in a given time than it is possible for them to bring down by the light of the lamp, which barely suffices to make the blackness of the working places visible. It would also benefit both masters and men, and greater safety would be insured, for explosions would be all but impossible, whilst the miners would be better able to guard against falls of roofs and coal."

FORTY-FIFTH CONGRESS.

Senate.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 9.
The House resolution for investigation of the yellow fever epidemic was agreed to. Garland submitted a resolution instructing the committee on Indian affairs to inquire into the expediency of revising the laws regulating intercourse with Indian tribes in the Indian territory; and to issue to the proper authorities of said tribes 4 1/2 cent bonds in lieu of all moneys held in trust for them by the United States, except the educational funds or payments due under existing treaties, with instructions to the secretary of the treasury to refer claims for adjudication to the court of claims; agreed to.

House.
Burchard offered a resolution for a recess from the 21st of December to the 6th of January; referred to the committee on ways and means.

Fort moved to suspend the rules and adopt the resolution declaring the legal tender quality of the silver dollar of 412 1/2 grains, shall be maintained and enforced, and any discrimination against it by any national bank, in refusing to receive it and treat it as legal money, shall be deemed a defiance of the laws and instructing the banking committee to report a bill for the withdrawal of the circulating notes of the bank so offending; defeated. Yeas 150, nays 89; not two thirds.

Chalmers moved to suspend the rules and pass a bill prohibiting contributions from officers of the government for use in elections, but it went over without action.
On motion, the Clymer resolution was adopted, declaring that Congress shall take part in the services to be held in honor of the memory of the late Professor Joseph Henry on the 16th of January next.

Young offered a resolution for the appointment of a committee of nine members to investigate methods of preventing the introduction and spread of epidemic diseases; adopted.
Townsend of Illinois offered a resolution relative to the silver dollar, and inquiring of the secretary of the treasury whether the department has acquiesced in and is to be governed by them; referred.
Also, a resolution instructing the judiciary committee to consider and report whether national banks which took part in such conspiracy had forfeited their charters; referred.

Senate.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 10.
Booth presented a memorial of Ross, Dempster & Co., Pope & Talbot and 25 other merchants of San Francisco, praying for legislation to authorize the payment of war premium claims out of the balance of the Geneva award. He also presented a memorial of Gov. Downey and fifty other citizens of Los Angeles and vicinity against the adoption of the proposed commercial treaty with France, affecting the present rates of duties on imported wines and brandies.
Spencer, from the committee on military affairs, reported favorably to the Senate a bill authorizing Dr. Janius Powell to be appointed assistant surgeon in the U. S. army. On explanation of the bill he said that Powell had rendered services as assistant surgeon because he served in the confederate army when a minor.
During the debate Beck gave notice that he would to-morrow introduce a bill to repeal section 1,218 of the revised statutes, which provides that no person who has served in any capacity in the military, naval or civil service of the so-called confederate States in insurrection, during the late rebellion, should be appointed to any position in the army of the United States.
The bill was read the third time and passed. Yeas, 39, nays 21.

Wallace introduced a bill to authorize the exchange of subsidiary coin for trade dollars; referred. The bill provides that subsidiary coins shall be exchanged for trade dollars at the rate of one hundred cents for each of said dollars, and they shall forthwith be re-coined to subsidiary coin and the gain, if any be made, may be used by the secretary of the treasury to pay the expense of sending the subsidiary coin to such persons or banks as may desire the same in exchange for other bonds. Coinage of trade dollars shall cease from and after the passage of this act.
At the expiration of the morning hour consideration was resumed of the bill relating to presidential elections, and Morgan made a speech favoring the measure.

After the debate, the Senate held a brief executive session and adjourned till to-morrow.

House.

Bills were introduced by Vance of North Carolina, to repeal the U. S. electoral supervisors law.
By Atkins—To make minor or subsidiary coin a legal tender for all debts due the government, including customs dues.
By Burchard—Requiring national banking associations to receive legal tender coins on deposit at par for United States and national bank notes, and also directing the U. S. treasurer to receive coin of the United States in exchange for United States notes.
By Cummings—To provide for redemption of subsidiary coin of the United States and for their reissue.
By Page—To enforce the 14th and 15th amendments to the constitution.

Wood, from the committee on ways and means, reported a bill to authorize the issue of certificates of deposit to aid the refunding of the public debt; recommitted. Also a resolution distributing the President's message among various committees; adopted.
The House then went into a committee of the whole on the naval appropriation bill.
Clymer explained that it was substantially the bill of last year, as it became a law. The estimates of the secretary of navy had only been about \$40,000 greater than last year's appropriation. The committee on appropriations had been able, without detriment to the service and with the concurrence of the department, to reduce the amount asked for by \$133,134. The appropriation of last year had been \$14,151,601, and the bill recommended \$14,018,469.
Not a single amendment was offered to the bill, and it was thereupon passed.

A resolution was passed to pay the widow of the late Representative from Nebraska (Mr. Welch) the pay of a member to the end of Congress.

The Speaker laid before the House the request of the Senate that it be furnished with

a copy of Jas. E. Anderson's testimony relating to Senator Matthews, and on motion of Potter, the request was complied with.

The speaker announced as a committee to inquire into the causes of the yellow fever epidemic Young, Gibson, Goode, Hartledge, Morse, Garfield, Harner and Chittenden. The speaker also announced appointments to fill vacancies in committees.

The House then went into committee of the whole, Springer in the chair, on the consular and diplomatic appropriations bill.
On motion of Hale, the salary of ministers to England, France, Germany and Russia reported in the bill at \$15,000, was, by a vote of 98 to 91, put back to the present figure of \$17,500. An amendment to increase the salary of ministers to Spain, Austria, Italy, Brazil, Mexico, Japan and China from \$10,000 to \$12,000 was defeated. Likewise an amendment providing for ministers to Belgium and the Netherlands.

The consideration of the bill having been concluded in committee of the whole, the house passed the bill after striking out the amendment agreed to in the committee decreasing the salaries of ministers to Great Britain, France, Germany and Russia.

Senate.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 11.
Windom reported the fortification appropriation bill and gave notice that he would call it up to-morrow.

Beck introduced a bill for a repeal of the section of the revised statutes which prohibits the appointment to the army any person who served under the confederate government; laid on the table for the present.

Ferry introduced a bill to fix the salary of persons in the railway mail service; referred.
Merriman submitted a resolution calling upon the secretary of war as to the arms and equipments issued to officers of the treasury and internal departments and department of justice; where such arms are now, and whether any of them have been sold; agreed to.

On motion of Hamlin the Senate proceeded to the consideration of the resolution submitted by Blaine, in regard to inquiry as to whether at the recent elections the constitutional rights of American citizens were violated.

Blaine said he offered pending the resolution: First—To place on record in definite and authentic form, the fraud and outrages by which some recent elections were carried by the Democratic party in the Southern States. Second—To find if there be any method by which a repetition of these crimes against free ballot may be prevented.

Debate followed and was participated in by Thurman, Lamar, Edmunds and Blaine. The debate between Lamar, Edmunds and Blaine was characterized by a good many personal allusions.

The resolution was finally laid aside, and consideration resumed of a bill to amend the patent laws.

Windom, from the appropriation committee, reported with amendments, the military academy bill; placed on the calendar.

House.

The pension appropriation bill was reported, referred and made a special order for to-morrow.

A bill, reported last year from committee on commerce, to regulate inter-State commerce and prevent discrimination by common carriers, was taken up and discussed.

The bill makes it unlawful for persons engaged in transporting property by railroad from one State to another, or to and from any foreign country, to discriminate against any persons in the price of freight. It prevents pooling of freight, combinations and drawbacks.

Reagan explained and advocated the bill. Potter opposed it, as being superfluous and useless.

Townsend of Illinois, advocated the bill. The combination of trunk lines had recently increased the cost of transportation on wheat from St. Louis to New York 3 or 4 cents per bushel. Farmers of the west who anticipated higher prices for their wheat have been injured thereby. It was as much in the interest of those living at terminal as at intermediate points. Every western producer was interested in having the strong hand of government to prevent monopolies levying taxes on producers.

Phillips of Kansas favored some parts of the bill and opposed others; railroads should be permitted to carry great quantities of freight cheaper than small.

Canon said he favored the provision against pooling, but not for the section prohibiting a reduction in the rate for long distances.

Hevitt said it was an unwise measure. An inter-State commission of experts was a proper remedy for grievous existing abuses, which demanded careful attention from all those who wished to develop a great foreign trade that is pulling the country out of the quagmire into which had hitherto legislation has plunged it. The bill then passed 189 to 110.

The House took up the Geneva award bill and adjourned.

Senate.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 12.
Anthony called up Senate bill authorizing the public printer to print papers and documents for senators, representatives and delegates in Congress upon the cost and 10 per cent. additional; passed.

Windom called up the fortification appropriation bill. Amendments of the committee increasing the appropriation for armament of the sea coast fortifications from \$125,000 to \$250,000, and for the preservation and repair of fortifications from \$100,000 to \$200,000, were agreed to and the bill then passed.
A brief discussion as to the order of business resulted in an agreement that the vote on Edmund's bill, in regard to counting the electoral vote, be taken to-morrow.
The bill from the House to correct the enrollment in the sundry civil appropriation bill of last year in regard to the Hot Springs reservation in Arkansas, passed without amendment.

House.
Wood offered a resolution directing inquiry into the conduct of the chief supervisor of election, DeVenport, at the last election in New York, and its consideration was postponed till to-morrow. The allegation is that DeVenport was guilty of illegal, unjust and oppressive exercise of pretended authority in causing the arrest, detention and imprisonment of citizens innocent of offense, by which he deprived them of the right to vote, and subjected them to indignity, insult and intimidation without warrant of law or justification, which arrests have been declared illegal by U. S. judges.
A resolution was adopted ordering recess from December 20th to January 6th.